



**MEMBERS:**

- City of Lacey
- City of Olympia
- City of Rainier
- City of Tenino
- City of Tumwater
- City of Yelm
- Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation
- Nisqually Indian Tribe
- Town of Bucoda
- Thurston County
- North Thurston Public Schools
- Olympia School District
- Tumwater School District
- Intercity Transit
- LOTT Clean Water Alliance
- Port of Olympia
- PUD No. 1 of Thurston County

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:**

- Lacey Fire District #3
- Puget Sound Regional Council
- The Evergreen State College
- Thurston Conservation District
- Thurston Economic Development Council
- Timberland Regional Library

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Transportation Policy Board  
 FROM: Marc Daily, Executive Director  
 DATE: March 1, 2023  
 SUBJECT: Commercial Aviation Coordinating Commission Update

**PURPOSE**

The acting Chair of the Commercial Aviation Coordinating Commission (CACC), Warren Hendrickson, will provide the Board an update on efforts to evaluate locations for a new commercial airport to be constructed by 2040-50.

**Summary:**

- In 2019 the Legislature created the Commercial Aviation Coordinating Commission (CACC) and charged them with producing a plan to meet the state’s projected commercial passenger and freight needs.
- The Legislature directed the CACC to provide a single preferred location for a new primary commercial aviation facility by June 15, 2023.
- In August 2022 the CACC issued the [Airport Site Selection Study](#), which identified 10 potential greenfield airport locations including two in Thurston County.
- On September 23, 2022, the CACC voted to move three of the locations forward for additional analysis. The sites are Thurston County Central, Pierce County Central, and Pierce County East. Figures of the three sites are included in the background section.
- The CACC has hosted numerous open houses and listening sessions since making the recommendation on the three sites.
- The CACC has not met formally since the September 23, 2022, meeting.
- House Transportation Chair Fey, along with Ranking Minority Member Barkis, Representative Doglio, and others, introduced a bill (HB 1791) that would halt the work of the current CACC and start anew with a Commercial Aviation Coordinating Work Group.
- That bill passed in the House Transportation Committee and is now in the Rules Committee.
- Acting Chair of the CACC, Warren Hendrickson, will provide TPB with an update on the CACC’s activities. Mr. Hendrickson is also the Airport Senior Manager for the Port of Olympia.

**REQUESTED ACTION**

None. Informational update for discussion.

md:bl



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## MEMORANDUM

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### EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

How has equity been considered in this agenda item?

Potential development of a new airport facility would dramatically impact all Thurston region residents. This agenda item is brought forward to help ensure that all Policy Board Members are aware of this issue so that as a region we can help ensure any adverse impacts and benefits are equitably shared in the region.

### BACKGROUND

The [Commercial Aviation Commission's Phase 1](https://wsdot.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-02/Commercial-Aviation-Coordinating-Commission-Report-February2022.pdf) Report provides the best background information.  
<https://wsdot.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-02/Commercial-Aviation-Coordinating-Commission-Report-February2022.pdf>

The CACC's October 2022 update to the Legislature provides the most recent formal information.  
<https://wsdot.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-10/Commercial-Aviation-Coordinating-Commission-Published%20Report-October2022.pdf>

The CACC also recently issued a Frequently Asked Questions Document:  
<https://wsdot.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2023-02/CACC-FAQ.pdf>

The following figures are from the Washington Aviation System Plan Airport Site Selection Study

Figure 13: Thurston County Central Representative Location



Figure 12: Pierce County Central Representative Location



Source: Kimley-Horn

Figure 11: Pierce County East Representative Location



Source: Kimley-Horn